

Mary Driscoll

Please vote against HB5326.

I do not support keeping a patient alive by extraordinary means against that patient's will. Real aid-in-dying, which is hospice care should be supported. Licensing doctors to prescribe lethal drugs for the purpose of taking a human life, prescribing suicide as a treatment is counterintuitive—it makes no sense.

The Connecticut Hospice Association, Connecticut Medical Association, disability rights advocates and many on the political Left oppose assisted suicide because it is bad public policy that puts vulnerable populations at risk. We can find alternatives for easing pain without passing a law that could put pressure on the elderly and people with disabilities to feel that they are a burden and should end their lives.

The societal implications of legalizing assisted suicide are staggering. Government and doctors would be endorsing suicide. Do you allow the *mentally incompetent* to take their own lives? In Belgium, a law to euthanize children has been passed. In Oregon, patients desiring treatment under the Oregon Health Plan have been offered assisted suicide instead.

Where does this stop?

I believe furthermore that suffering is redemptive and has a place in life for growth if God allows it in your life.

We don't have a right to terminate even our own lives.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Mary Driscoll
Enfield, CT